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Illinois
Environmental
Protection Agency

Bureau of Air
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March 1993

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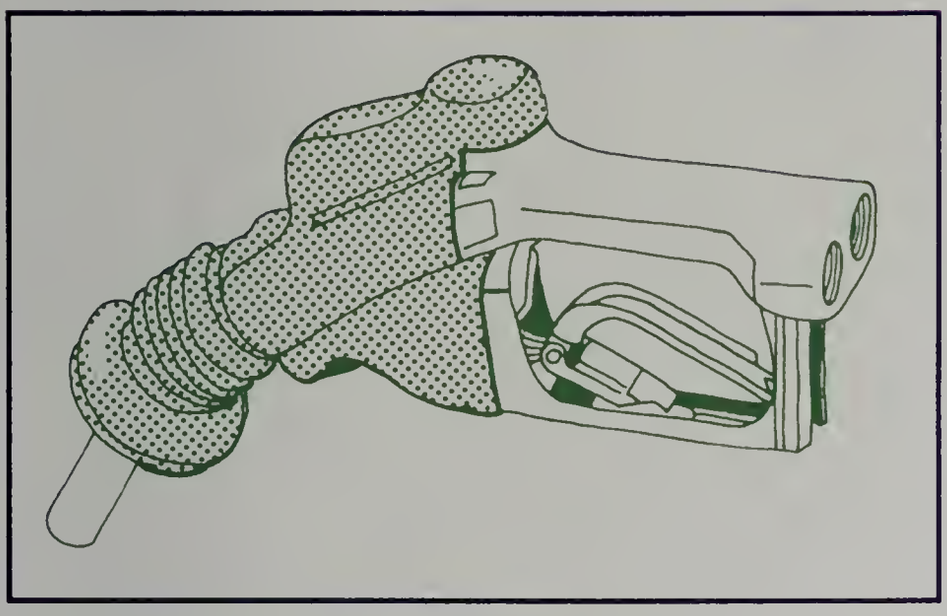
ILLINOIS DOCUMENTS

Stage II Vapor Recovery



Stage II Vapor Recovery Nozzle

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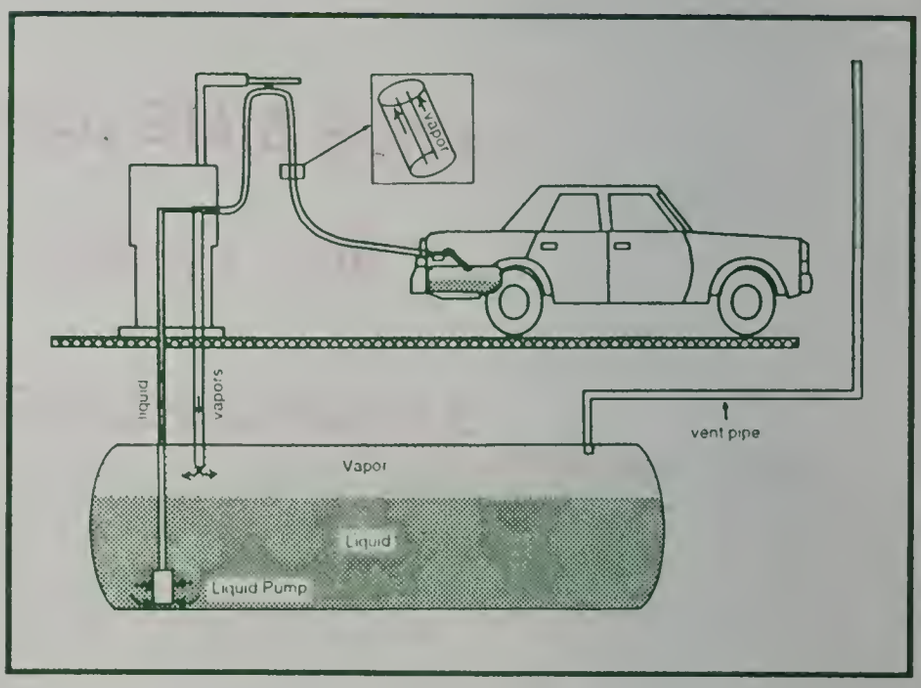
Stage II vapor recovery systems are used to control releases of gasoline vapors when vehicles are refueled. A specially designed nozzle is used at the gas pump to collect vapors from the vehicles gas tank and return these collected vapors to the service station underground storage tank (shown below).



Stage II System

ENVIRONMENTAL BENEFITS

These Stage II systems will reduce urban smog (ozone), limit exposure to toxic compounds and conserve energy. By 1995, the Stage II program in Illinois will reduce hydrocarbon emissions by 35 tons per day and save 4 million gallons of gasoline annually.

AFFECTED AREAS

Facilities must install Stage II controls if they meet two criteria:

1. they are located in either of the two nonattainment areas listed below

and

2. they dispense on average more than 10,000 gallons of gasoline per month.

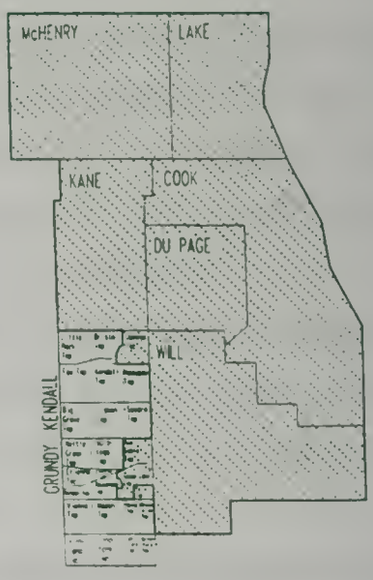
As part of the overall goal, Stage II is expected to achieve approximately one-sixth of the required 15% reduction in the Chicago area and one-tenth of the required 15% reduction in the Metro-East area.

The Chicago area counties of Cook, DuPage, Kane, Lake, McHenry and Will are designated severe nonattainment for ozone. Additionally, Oswego Township in Kendall County and Aux Sable and Goose Lake Townships in Grundy County are designated as part of the Chicago severe nonattainment area.

The Metro-East area, consisting of Madison, Monroe and St. Clair counties, has been designated as moderate nonattainment for ozone.

Facilities subject to Stage II control requirements must have the systems installed, tested and in operation according to the following schedule:

Date	Category
May 1, 1993	Facilities whose construction began after enactment of CAAA, November 15, 1990.
Nov. 1, 1993	Existing facilities which dispense at least 100,000 gallons of gasoline per month.
Nov. 1, 1994	All other gasoline dispensing facilities.



ACCEPTABLE SYSTEMS

Only systems approved by the California Air Resources Board (CARB) can be used in Illinois. All system parts must be clearly marked to prove CARB approval. Stage II systems must be registered in the State of Illinois, and a registration certificate must be prominately displayed at the facility once Stage II vapor recovery operations have begun.

STAGE II SYSTEM OPERATION

Each facility must have persons trained in the operation and maintenance of the Stage II system. Malfunctioning or leaking nozzles are to be removed from service. Records are required to show that the Stage II system has been installed correctly, that proper maintenance is being performed, and that periods of equipment malfunction are clearly identified.

COMPLIANCE INSPECTIONS

Each facility subject to Stage II control requirements will be inspected shortly after its registration and annually thereafter. The inspection will be performed by the Illinois EPA or its delegate, eg. Department of Agriculture or City of Chicago.

PENALTIES

Violating Illinois Law can be very costly. Penalties for violating air pollution regulations can be up to $50,000 for each violation and $10,000 for each day the violation continues. Compliance with the law is the responsibility of the facility owner or operator.

COMPLIANCE ASSISTANCE

Information concerning the Stage II program or applicable rules and regulations can be obtained from the Illinois E.P.A. at the address provided above or by telephoning 217/782-7438.

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COMMON QUESTIONS

Q: Are diesel fuel or kerosene pumps affected?

A: No. Only gasoline and ethanol blends are subject to Stage II control.

Q: Are private, non-retail service stations affected?

A: Yes. Both private and retail stations are subject to Stage II rules.

Q: Does the May 1, 1993 compliance date apply to only new facilities?

A: Yes. A new facility is defined as a location where gasoline has not been dispensed previously. Station modifications, like tank replacement, are not considered to be "new" construction.

Q: Are facilities which fuel marine or aircraft subject to Stage II rules?

A: No. They are exempt from the rule.

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